

# Innovative Outstanding Weatherization Assistance News

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**Wishing you a  
fabulous fall!**

From all of us in the  
Weatherization Bureau  
in Des Moines

Jim, Gwen, Mark, Chris, Mike  
and Rosemary

## Welcome

- Welcome to Red Rock Area Community Action Program's new Evaluator/Inspector Rob Foster. He officially begins evaluating homes on October 1st.
- We will be reprinting the Client Consent, Health & Safety Parts 1 and 2, and the Client Refrigeration Appliance Agreement forms in the near future. Please send us any suggestions you may have for revisions to these forms by October 7th. We appreciate your comments!
- Did you know the State of Iowa has a new electronic telephone book called "rDirectory"? Yes! The easy-to-use search options should make finding information faster. You will also find handy links to information about Iowa, including area codes, zip codes, and governmental information. The rDirectory is located at <http://www.icn.state.ia.us/rdirectory/index.html>. You may also access the directory by going to the State of Iowa homepage and clicking the "State Telephone Directory" link in the upper right-hand corner.

## Statistics

<u>ITEM</u>	<u>*QTRLY</u>	<u>**YTD</u>
Houses Worked On	553	859
Completions	488	777
Closed Incomplete	65	82
Owner Occupied	460	738
Rentals	93	121
Elderly Occupied	178	296
Disabled Occupied	254	390
Occupied by Young Children	61	108
Furnace Replacements	237	377
Refrigerator Replacements	211	333
Freezer Replacements	90	146
Average Costs Per House	\$5,450	\$5,722

**Totals for all agencies combined**  
**\* QTRLY (June—August 2005)**  
**\*\* YTD (Program year through August)**

## News

**History**—Some interesting historical data we thought we would share...

Year	Number of Homes Completed
1980-1996	101,222
1997	1,992
1998	2,058
1999	1,861
2000	1,885
2001	1,934
2002	1,895
2003	1,947
2004	2,064
TOTAL	116,858

**Average Household Savings of \$389 for 2004**—The 2004 SLICE Report is completed. A copy of the report is on our website and hardcopies have been mailed to the agencies. The report found that average first-year client fuel bill savings increased substantially, averaging \$389 for dwellings weatherized during calendar year 2004. Several agencies had average first year savings of more than \$400. Two agencies achieved average savings of \$500 or more. One agency achieved a savings of \$713. The increase in savings is due both to an increase in energy savings and an increase in fuel costs.

We congratulate the weatherization agency network for doing a great job!

**Statewide House Evaluation Form**—This is a reminder to email comments regarding the statewide evaluation form to Eldon Starmer, at [EStarmer@maturaaction.org](mailto:EStarmer@maturaaction.org).

**Natural Gas Prices**—According to Iowa Utility Board staff, natural gas prices are expected to average 31-44 percent more during the upcoming heating season (November through March) than last season's prices. Factors affecting the expected increase include hurricane-related supply disruptions, high crude oil prices, higher than average prices

during the summer and fall, warmer than normal summer temperatures which created an increased use of natural gas for electricity generation, natural gas well depletions, and a lack of new drilling.

**NEAT Audit Fuel Costs**—We've received inquiries as to whether we will be updating the fuel costs in the NEAT Audit because of the expected increase in natural gas and propane costs this winter. We will contact the Iowa Department of Natural Resources in November-December to get the current fuel cost information for Iowa. If the costs have increased, as expected, we will update the NEAT Audit fuel costs at that time.

**Polk County/City of Des Moines/Red Rock Area CAP**—Effective October 1, Polk County will begin delivering weatherization services in the City of Des Moines. At the same time, Polk County will discontinue delivering weatherization services to Boone, Marion, and Warren Counties. Red Rock Area Community Action Program will begin providing weatherization services to those counties at that time.

**2005 National Weatherization Training Conference**—DOE's 2005 National Weatherization Training Conference, which was originally scheduled for September 25 – 28, in New Orleans, has been rescheduled for December 12-14 in Atlanta. Visit <http://www.eere.energy.gov/weatherization/conference/> for more information.

**Funding**—Do you find you will not be able to spend your utility, DOE, or HEAP funding? Or do you find that you could use more funding? Either way, please give Gwen Howe, the DCAA Data Specialist a call at 515-281-3988 and she will try to help you out.

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### Tentative 2005 Fiscal Monitoring Schedule

October	Operation New View Hawkeye Area Community Action
November	(None Scheduled)
December	(None Scheduled)

## Questions and Answers

**Question:** The landlord is selling the house to the tenant. May I replace the furnace?

**Answer:** If the tenant is still renting and no contract has been drawn up, then no, we cannot replace the furnace. If the tenant has signed a contract and is making payments on the house, then he would be classified as buying the home and would then qualify for a furnace replacement.

*"I am so grateful to have been approved for help with my home. It means so much to have someone as pleasant as you to work with. God bless you. He has certainly blessed me."*

- Upper Des Moines Opportunity Client

**Question:** Can natural gas water heaters be replaced by electric water heaters?

**Answer:** Because electric water heaters cost much more to operate than natural gas water heaters, natural gas water heaters should be replaced by another gas water heater. If drafting problems prevent the installation of a replacement natural gas water heater, then a power-vented gas water heater should be installed. If a power-vented gas water heater can't be installed due to height problems or other restrictions, then, and only then, should an electric water heater be installed.

### Service Recognition

#### 25 Year Anniversary

*Brent Henderson*, an Evaluator/Inspector with Hawkeye Area Community Action Program in Hiawatha, Iowa received an award for 25 years of service last month.

*Jim Perry*, an Evaluator/Inspector with Northeast Iowa Community Action Agency in Decorah, Iowa, recently celebrated 25 years with Community Action.

### Resources

[www.energysavers.gov](http://www.energysavers.gov)

Partnership for Home Energy Efficiency

[www.homeenergy.org/consumerinfo/index.html](http://www.homeenergy.org/consumerinfo/index.html)

Home Energy Do-It-Yourself Consumer Information Section

<http://www.eere.energy.gov/consumer/>

DOE's Efficiency and Renewable Office Re-news its Consumer Site

<http://www.eere.energy.gov/financing/>

EERE's Financial Opportunities Website

**Question:** What documentation is required to be in the contractor's files?

**Answer:** The contractor's file must contain: A copy of the current signed contract your agency has with the contractor, a copy of their Contractor's Registration with the state of Iowa, proof of auto insurance (the amount as deemed necessary by the agency), proof of commercial general liability insurance (\$1,000,000 aggregate and \$500,000 per occurrence), proof of worker's compensation insurance or waiver, and proof the contractor has taken the Lead Safe Work Practices training (not applicable to furnace contractors).

**Question:** We would like to weatherize some non-profit, multi-unit complexes, which meet the 66% requirement. Each unit has its own furnace. If the furnace needs to be replaced, is the landlord responsible for the cost?

**Answer:** Yes. As stated in Section 5.21 of the Policy and Procedures manual, the landlord would be responsible for replacing furnaces if deemed necessary, regardless of whether the landlord is a non-profit organization.

## Water Heaters

The world of water heaters can be a bit confusing. Especially when there are so many models to choose from. Below, we have compiled the most common atmospheric draft and power vent water heaters and have listed their energy factor (EF). We hope these charts are helpful to you.

Please note there are several power direct vent water heaters that meet utility standards. Three models are produced by American Water Heaters and one model is produced by Bradford-White. All three American models have a .63 EF; Bradford-White has a .62 EF.

Also note, there are three short models that meet utility standards; Bradford-White has a .62 EF, A.O. Smith has a .63 EF, and American has a .62 EF. All three of these models are atmospheric draft.

Unfortunately, there aren't any mobile home water heaters that meet the utility requirement of a .62 energy factor. This is true for both atmospheric draft and direct vent mobile home water heaters.

State	Atmospheric Draft Units	Power Vent Units
	<i>Select High Eff.</i>	<i>Select Powervent</i>
30 gallon	G56 .63 EF	-
40 gallon	G56 .62 EF	PRG40XCVIT2 .64 EF
50 gallon	G56 .62 EF	PRG50XCVIT2 .64 EF

Maytag	Atmospheric Draft Units	Power Vent Units
	<i>Series 9</i>	<i>Series 12</i>
30 gallon	HRN4930T .62 EF	-
40 gallon	-	HRN1-12 .63 EF
50 gallon	-	HRN1-12 .63 EF

Rheem & Ruud	Atmospheric Draft Units	Power Vent Units
	<i>Guardian Professional</i>	<i>Guardian Fury</i>
30 gallon	-	22V .62 EF
40 gallon	RHG Models .62 EF	42R .62 EF
50 gallon	RHG Models .62 EF	42R .62 EF

Bradford-White	Atmospheric Draft Units	Power Vent Units
	<i>Defender</i>	<i>TTW2</i>
30 gallon	M430T6FBN .62 EF	-
40 gallon	M440T6FBN .62 EF	-
50 gallon	M45036FBN .62 EF	.64 EF

Reliance	Atmospheric Draft Units	Power Vent Units
	<i>12 12 Series</i>	
30 gallon	-	-
40 gallon	12-40-YXRT .63 EF	6-40-XOVIT .62 EF
50 gallon	12-50-YXRT .63 EF	-

Whirlpool	Atmospheric Draft Units	Power Vent Units
	<i>12 Year</i>	<i>6 Year</i>
30 gallon	-	-
40 gallon	-	6077 .63 EF
50 gallon	FG2J5040T3NOV .62 EF	-

## Water Heaters—Continued

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Richmond	Atmospheric Draft Units	Power Vent Units
	<i>12 Year Integra</i>	<i>Power Vent 2</i>
30 gallon	-	-
40 gallon	.62 EF	.64 EF
50 gallon	.62 EF	.65 EF

American	Atmospheric Draft Units	Power Vent Units
	<i>6 Year</i>	
30 gallon	-	-
40 gallon	FG6240T403NOV .63 EF	PVG62-40T42-3NV .63 EF
50 gallon	FG6250T403NOV .62 EF	PVG62-50T42-3NV .63 EF PVG62-50T60-3NV .63 EF

A.O. Smith	Atmospheric Draft Units			Power Vent Units
	<i>Conservationist</i>	<i>ProMax</i>	<i>ProMax High Eff.</i>	<i>Powervent Power Shot</i>
30 gallon	-	GVC30 .62 EF	GVR30 .63 EF	-
40 gallon	XGV .63 EF	-	GVR40 .62 EF	GPCR40 .64 EF
50 gallon	XGV .63 EF	-	GVR50 .62 EF	GPCR50 .64 EF

For a directory of certified efficiency ratings for heating and water heating equipment, visit [gamanet.org](http://gamanet.org). Go to Consumers, then go to Education and click on Consumers' Directory of Certified Efficiency Ratings. The gas water heaters ratings begin on page 138. You may also visit each manufacturers' website for more information.

## Extreme Photos



*Duct tape heaven!!!*



*Well, this is ingenious!*

## NEWS—Continued

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**NEAT Audit**—We still have some confusion on what is to be included in the SIR calculation of the NEAT Audit. This information can be found in Section 5.31 of the Policy and Procedures manual. The chart to the right shows which costs need to be entered in the NEAT Audit and included in the SIR calculation.

**Weatherization Demonstrations**—If any of you are planning to do a weatherization demonstration at a house in the next few months please let the DCAA office know the date and location. Staff from the DOE Regional Office in Chicago are interested in attending a demonstration.

### Tentative 2005 PY Monitoring Schedule

October	Operation New View Community Action
November	(None scheduled)
December	Polk County

**NEAT Audit Costs**

Costs	Must be included in NEAT Audit	Must be included in SIR calculation
Water heating measures	N	N
Refrigerator/freezer replacement	N	N
Compact fluorescent lighting ( <i>if charged to utility funds</i> )	N	N
Compact fluorescent lighting ( <i>if charged to program funds</i> )	Y	Y
Infiltration	Y	Y
Incidental repairs	Y	Y
General H & S repairs	N	N
H & S measures	N	N

## Upcoming Events

### October 2005

- 3—5 **ICAA Annual Training Conference.** To be held in Des Moines, Iowa. For more information, visit [www.iowacomunityaction.com](http://www.iowacomunityaction.com).
- 18 **Lead Safe Work Practices.** To be held at Operation Threshold in Waterloo, Iowa. To sign up for the training or for more information, please contact Marcia Thompson at 515-281-3861 or [Marcia.Thompson@iowa.gov](mailto:Marcia.Thompson@iowa.gov).
- 19 **Slate Safe Work Practices.** To be held at Operation Threshold in Waterloo, Iowa. To sign up for the training or for more information, please contact Marcia Thompson at 515-281-3861 or [Marcia.Thompson@iowa.gov](mailto:Marcia.Thompson@iowa.gov).
- 25—26 **Advanced Combustion Health and Safety.** To be held in Ames, Iowa. To sign up for the training or for more information, please contact Marcia Thompson at 515-281-3861 or [Marcia.Thompson@iowa.gov](mailto:Marcia.Thompson@iowa.gov).

### November 2005

- 15—16 **Basic Weatherization Skills for Crews/New Contractors.** Location of training to be determined. To sign up for the training or for more information, please contact Marcia Thompson at 515-281-3861 or [Marcia.Thompson@iowa.gov](mailto:Marcia.Thompson@iowa.gov).

### December 2005

- 6—7 **NEAT Audit.** To be held at North Iowa Community Action in Mason City. To sign up for the training or for more information, please contact Marcia Thompson at 515-281-3861 or [Marcia.Thompson@iowa.gov](mailto:Marcia.Thompson@iowa.gov).

**Be sure to check our website for training updates at [www.weatherization.iowa.gov](http://www.weatherization.iowa.gov) !**

## Speed Bumps

- New water heaters installed must be at a minimum 1-1/2 inches off of the floor. It is the same as the furnace requirement.
- Draft testing needs to be done under the worst case scenario. Three water heaters in the past month were spilling continuously during inspection testing.
- Humidifiers installed on furnaces need to be removed with client permission.
- Water heater pipes are not to be insulated when the water heater is in the heated lived in portion of the home (e.g. kitchen).
- There seems to be a lot more doors and windows being installed. We allow the NEAT audit to limit the cost of these

repairs. However during the evaluation we should make an effort to only install these measures if we think that it is absolutely necessary. These measures (especially window sash) are very costly and will probably not pay for themselves through energy savings.

- There is a new product available through several water heater manufacturers for use when there isn't enough combustion air available. It is a power direct vent water heater that brings in combustion air from the outside and then exhausts with a blower. I don't believe that it has been certified for mobile home use as of yet. There are probably not too many times these would be necessary but there may be some instances it could be used.
- Exhaust venting should never be down sized. This includes water heaters, furnaces, dryer vents, exhaust vents, etc.

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***Please feel free to copy and distribute.***

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### Iowa Bureau of Weatherization

Department of Human Rights  
Community Action Agency  
Lucas State Office Building, 2nd Floor  
Des Moines, Iowa 50319

*We're on the Web!!!*  
[www.weatherization.iowa.gov](http://www.weatherization.iowa.gov)

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